

# Confine Your Dog to Your Property

Dog owners are encouraged to keep their dogs inside with them if at all possible. This allows your dog to truly become a part of your family. Your dog will benefit from spending all that time with you and he will make a better, happier pet.

If your dog must spend time outside it is your responsibility to make sure that he is kept in a securely fenced yard that prevents him from straying. Dogs cannot be allowed to run loose. Doing so is against the law and you can be fined for not properly containing your dog. Remember, being a responsible dog owner means abiding by the law, which helps to keep your pet, yourself, your neighbors, and your community safe.

Dogs that spend most of their time confined to their yards will need to have access to adequate shelter from the heat, rain, snow, severe winds, and other harsh weather. You should also provide him with a covered dog run or pen with a doghouse inside. This is a good alternative if you're unable to fence your yard or if your dog is likely to escape from your yard by jumping the fence.

It is *NOT* recommended that you chain or tie your dog up to prevent him from wandering off. A chained or tied-up dog is likely to become frustrated, which could lead to destructive and/or aggressive behavior. He also could become entangled in his chain, rope, or leash and severely injure himself. He may also try to bite anyone who comes near him, including you, his owner.

If you feel you must chain or tie up your dog, then it is recommended that you use a dog trolley. You can construct one by sliding a ring onto a heavy wire or rope and fastening the ends of the wire or rope between two posts or trees. The next step is to connect your dog's lead to the ring. Make sure the lead is short enough to avoid tangling, but long enough to allow your dog to lie down. The trolley may either be overhead or on the ground. You will need to provide at least 15 feet of clear space

for your dog to move around in and be sure to remove any objects or debris that could cause him to become entangled or injured. Do not secure the dog trolley near stairways, fences, decks, or porches and you will need to make sure it is a safe distance from all possible escape routes. When using a dog trolley

do not ever use a choke chain collar — instead use a leather or nylon harness.

Always provide your dog with a tip-proof water bowl in an area where it will not get knocked over. You can dig a hole and place the bowl at ground level, which will not only keep it from being knocked over, but it will keep the water cool as well. You will also want to provide your dog with safe toys that are appropriate for him to play with and chew on. Most importantly, do not leave your dog chained up outside for extended periods of time.

***Remember, your dog is happiest and safest when kept indoors with you!***



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